



April 8, 2021

## **FY 2021 CHRC Call for Proposals- Grants awarded by Maryland Community Health Resources Commission**

### **Chronic Disease Management & Prevention**

**MedStar Good Samaritan (Baltimore City; total award \$ 93,000).** The Good Samaritan Hospital Food Farmacy Program is designed for adult patients with Type 2 Diabetes who may also have heart failure and/or food insecurity. Eligible patients will receive ongoing one-on-one care and consultations by a Community Health Advocate (CHA) and dietitian, and customized healthy food at no cost. The Good Samaritan Collaborative Care Center offers access to consultations, food storage capability and safe food pickup and delivery options to remove transportation barriers and increase access to care and food. The program also will connect patients to holistic health resources in the community.

**Luminis Health Anne Arundel Medical Center (LHAAMC) (Anne Arundel & Prince George's Counties; total award: \$ 90,000).** This program will support the expansion of existing Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP) cohorts run by the health system to a broader population of underserved and vulnerable communities, particularly Hispanic populations. The grantee will use their mobile clinic to deliver health education and screening services to areas that lack access to primary care providers and/or transportation. The program will use bilingual community educators and Community Health Workers (CHWs) for outreach and delivery of education programs on the mobile clinic, and to recruit and attract residents to the DPP classes. The mobile clinic will also provide some limited screenings (e.g., A1C, blood glucose, blood pressure). Educational programs will promote healthy eating, healthy lifestyle changes, and the importance of physical activity in preventing disease. Once the program engages members of the target communities, the goal is to anchor them to a medical home.

**Korean Community Services Center (KCSC) (Montgomery & Prince George's Counties; total award: \$ 170,000).** The KCSC Diabetes Self-Management for Asian Americans program will target low-income Asian Americans residing in Montgomery and Prince Georges Counties, particularly Chinese/Korean immigrants over 55 and their family members, as well as underserved communities with limited English proficiency who face cultural barriers to care. KCSC will adapt the Self-Management Resource Center's Chronic Diseases Self-Management Program, including the Diabetes Self-Management Program, which uses a community-based participatory approach to improve health status, increase healthy behavior and self-efficacy, reduce healthcare costs, and decrease emergency room visits. KCSC will partner with Mobile Medical Care, Inc., Chinese Cultural and Community Service Center, the Korean American Medical Association, the Self-Management Resource Center, and LabCorp to administer the program.

**Chase Brexton (Howard County; total award: \$325,000).** This program will expand the Chase Brexton patient-centered medical home model of chronic disease management for adults diagnosed with diabetes. Chase Brexton will use grant funding to expand capacity to provide treatment and ancillary support services to adults diagnosed with diabetes and provide intensive patient-centered care and treatment adherence support to those diagnosed with "uncontrolled" diabetes, defined as having an A1c greater than 9%. The program will enhance the delivery of comprehensive diabetes-focused treatment, increase health literacy surrounding diabetes treatment, improve self-management skills, and encourage healthier eating habits. The program also will work to reduce diabetes-related health disparities for 90 low-income, un/underinsured, and underserved residents of Howard County, including racial and ethnic minorities.

**Baltimore Medical Systems (Baltimore City; total award: \$250,000).** This program will support the BMS Diabetes Education and Lifestyle Change (BMS DEAL) program by adding a Certified Diabetes Educator and Care Specialist (CDECS) to the multidisciplinary care team at the Saint Agnes and Pine Heights community health centers. The specialist will educate patients about diabetes self-management, help them set behavioral goals to improve diet, and manage their weight to improve diabetic control and achieve better health outcomes. The specialist will also identify and address social barriers to accessing healthy food and complying with regular provider checks. The BMS DEAL is an integrated approach to diabetes care which includes the patient, provider, medical assistant, nurse, and pharmacist when indicated for patient education, testing and follow-up. The clinics (St. Agnes & Pine Heights Health Centers) will work with several community partners to address food insecurity and transportation barriers.

**Holy Cross Health (Montgomery & Prince George's Counties; total award: \$60,000).** The Holy Cross Equitable Wellness Initiative will address chronic disease prevention and management of type 2 diabetes and pulmonary rehabilitation post COVID-19 to decrease disparities in care among African American and Latinx populations. The initiative will focus on behavior change, education, and self-efficacy through implementation of three culturally appropriate health education programs developed for populations with low educational attainment and health literacy. Participants will receive a weekly session with Health and Wellness Coaches to discuss the status of goals and identify and address expressed social needs through referrals using an established free or reduced cost social care service network. To incentivize completion of the three-part series, each participant will receive a box of fresh produce.

**Associated Catholic Charities – Esperanza Center (Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Anne Arundel County; total award: \$125,000).** The “Diabetes and Dignidad” program will employ a bilingual community health worker (CHW) to staff up to 70 community-based diabetes rapid A1c testing events annually for Latinx residents located in parts of Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Anne Arundel County. All newly diagnosed diabetics who are uninsured and uninsurable will be referred to primary care and the Diabetes Self-Management Program at Esperanza. Individuals diagnosed with pre-diabetes will receive health information on managing the condition with a list of health care providers for further screening. The CHW will also provide diabetes self-management support, food security screening, and home visits to participants of Esperanza’s existing diabetes program.

**UMD – St. Joseph’s Medical Center (Baltimore County; total award: \$50,000).** This program will support the hiring of one additional licensed FTE (a Community Health Worker) to coordinate and manage community outreach and to expand the chronic disease education programs. Funding also will help cover the cost of home self-monitoring equipment (e.g., scale, pulse oximeter, thermometer, BP cuff, and blood glucose monitoring device) for individuals who are uninsured or unable to cover the cost of insurance co-pays.

**West Cecil Health Center (Cecil and Harford Counties; total award: \$130,000).** This program will support procurement and implementation of Health Information Technology in the form of a clinical health dashboard and the salary of full-time Data Analytics employee. The clinical health dashboard will be used to perform risk stratification of identified vulnerable and at-risk patients. West Cecil will then employ a Nurse Case Manager to follow-up with these individuals, provide case management, and work with community partners to provide linkages to chronic disease management resources and care. West Cecil will work with community partners in screening and identifying vulnerable and at-risk individuals with uncontrolled hypertension and diabetes to improve clinical outcomes.

**Corsica River Mental Health Services, Inc. (Mid-Shore Counties; total award: \$175,000).** This program will fund expansion of the Care Connections program to increase access to primary and preventative health and dental care services and other community resources that address social determinants of health (SDOH), reduce health inequities, and provide technology-supported interventions to address chronic conditions for a population that repeatedly uses emergency department and inpatient resources. Shore Regional Health and Choptank Community Health staff will identify eligible individuals and upon consent and enroll these individuals in the program. Once enrolled, participants will receive a welcome message from the GoMo Health Concierge Program communication platform and a HIPAA-compliant care concierge application. CC staff will reach out within 48 hours, conduct an assessment, and develop a person-centered Care Plan within three days of contact to quickly initiate access to the identified need for resources.

## Addressing the Health & Social Needs of Vulnerable Populations

**MedStar Montgomery Hospital (Montgomery County; total award: \$125,000).** This program will promote access to health services and support for anti-poverty programs focusing on under-resourced Latino families in central Montgomery County. The program aims to address unmet health and social service needs, provide food security and education, and promote health literacy around COVID transmission. Funding will cover the salary costs for two new bilingual FTEs, an ED navigator and community health advocate, and other costs to be borne by the hospital, which include EMR modification, travel, and education materials, and a partial FTE at Proyecto Salud to co-locate clinic space.

**University of Maryland – Baltimore (Baltimore City; total award: \$325,000).** This program will boost COVID vaccination rates among 20,000 patients: 10,000 engaged in the UMMS Family Medicine practice and 10,000 residents from the surrounding community in downtown Baltimore. The program will involve patient and physician education, a telehealth hotline, and two-dose COVID-19 vaccine delivery to the target population impacted by SDOH.

**CASA de Maryland (Multiple Counties; total award: \$95,000).** This program will support the hiring of a Manager position in CASA's immigrant access to health and social services program. Services will include contract tracing, vaccine trials, public health forums, financial support, and food distribution.

**La Clinica del Pueblo (Prince George's County; total award: \$108,000).** This program will help to ameliorate the impact of COVID on the Latino community through several strategies that include a partnership with the Prince George's County Food Equity Council and FRESHFARM, increasing the organization's referral network to social services, providing health education, promoting socially distanced walking groups, peer-navigation of services, and food distribution.

**Primary Care Coalition (Montgomery County; total award: \$160,000).** This program will introduce food security screenings at three "point of entry" sites and provide referrals to an existing program that serves children from newly arrived immigrant families. The additional "points of entry" for children and households will include school mental health providers and a food distribution program operating from a school site.

**Baltimore City Health Department (BCHD) (Baltimore City; total award: \$385,000).** This program will support increased access to preventative services at public health sexual health clinics through: increasing STI and HIV testing of high-risk populations, providing at-home STI and HIV testing, and increasing referrals to pre-exposure peer navigators. Funding will enable BCHD to adjust clinic operations in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The program targets three groups disproportionately affected by both COVID-19 and STI/HIV: Black and Latinx individuals, individuals with lower socioeconomic status, and individuals with lower health care access.

**United Way of Central Maryland (Baltimore City; total award: \$93,000).** This program will address food insecurity in Morrell Park, an underserved and impoverished community and known food desert in southwest Baltimore City, through a partnership with Access Art. Funding will cover the salary cost of one FTE CHW and other costs, such as parent stipends, transportation, and nutrition classes. Access Art's weekly food distribution events will be transformed into comprehensive health markets that address multiple SDOH, with support from the bilingual CHW, to achieve integration of health and social services. Longer term, the CHW will convene a team of residents and food experts to plan strategically how to increase number of sustainable food providers locally.

**Jewish Community Services (Baltimore City & County; total award: \$153,000).** This program will expand the Patient Care Connection Project, a successful program that works with private physicians who serve low-income seniors and individuals with disabilities to address their basic human needs, remove barriers to care, etc. Funding will increase the number of physicians participating to serve additional patients.

**HealthCare Access Maryland (HCAM) (Baltimore City; total award: \$430,000).** The program will expand HCAM's existing work to enroll incarcerated individuals into Medicaid prior to discharge from the Baltimore City jail. Transition support will be provided for up to 60 days to assist individuals in accessing primary and specialty care for chronic illness management, substance use treatment, housing and food access, and workforce development. The program targets

individuals who are over 59 years old and/or enrolled in chronic care clinics during incarceration, a population particularly impacted by COVID-19.

**The Coordinating Center (Allegany & Caroline Counties; total award: \$265,000).** The program will support expansion of the VIPhysicians & Kids program to Allegany and Caroline Counties, with the overall goal of establishing a medical home and care coordination services for children in these jurisdictions. The Maryland Rural Health Association (MRHA) will provide outreach to rural health care services and community-based services, including school-based health centers (SBHCs) and wellness centers.

**Chinese Culture Community Service Center (Montgomery County; total award: \$220,000).** The program will support the building of telehealth and social media outreach platforms to provide health education, direct health services, and virtual group therapy on pain and chronic disease management for individuals who are isolated and "left behind" during COVID. Funding will support the provision of health services via telehealth, including six virtual Chronic Pain Self-Management and Chronic Disease Self-Management groups.

**Maryland Foundation of Dentistry (Statewide; total award: \$18,500).** The program will support the Foundation's work to provide access to dental services for underserved Maryland residents, including covering the costs of dental prostheses not covered by the Foundation's dental labs. By expanding the organization's network of dentists and labs, the program will reduce wait lists for clients seeking services in each jurisdiction. All clients will receive intensive case management through their Patient Care Coordinators.

**Pressley Ridge (Washington County; total award: \$390,000).** Funding will support the expansion of the HOMEBUILDERS® family preservation model into Washington County. The HOMEBUILDERS program works with families and parents facing addiction and promotes family preservation. This program has proven successful in Allegany, Garrett, and Baltimore Counties. Funding will cover the salary of two new Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSWs) and partial program oversight staff.

**Stone Run Family Medicine (Cecil & Surrounding Counties; total award: \$200,000).** The program will support implementation of the "Open Table" concept through two clinic practices, Stone Run and Clinica (a charitable clinic which specializes in serving Spanish-speaking residents with financial and language barriers). Open Table is a non-profit training organization that specializes in developing and directing the "social and relational assets of community-based volunteers to support vulnerable families and residents with complex needs." The program goal is to leverage community and social and relational networks to provide support that transcends traditional safety net programs.

**The Gaston & Porter Health Improvement Center, Inc. (Montgomery County; total award: \$275,000).** The program aims to address the negative impact of COVID-19 on Black residents in Prince George's County, with a specific focus on Black women. Program activities will include: 3 virtual webinars to increase knowledge, improve attitudes, and change behaviors of 300 residents (Black women and men), including information on how to protect themselves; a 'train the trainer' program to train 30 (15 Black women and 15 Black men) who participated in the webinars and were referred by community organizations. These trainees will provide health information and outreach to Prince George's communities that are underserved and impoverished; and three "Prime Time Sister Circles®" (PTSC) for 75 (25 women per PTSC) mid-life (40-75 years of age) Black women. The PTSC is free to the participants and the purpose is to increase knowledge, improve attitudes, and change behaviors linked to COVID-19 vaccinations and risk factors, and chronic diseases.

**Western Maryland Health Care Center (dba Mountain Laurel) (Allegany & Garrett Counties; total award: \$180,000).** The program will expand the current diabetes prevention program (ADAPT – Appalachia Diabetes Awareness Prevention Program) by adding a new mobile medical unit to meet residents "where they live, work and play" to provide nutrition, diabetes, and weight management education. Individuals at-risk/pre-diabetics will be referred to the accredited Diabetes Prevention Program at Garrett Regional or AHEC West; individuals with active, uncontrolled diabetes will be referred to Mt Laurel's chronic care management teams. The program will address two key SDOH by tapping its 340B pharmacy for low-income patients and providing transportation via two full-time van drivers.

**City of Frederick, Department of Health & Human Services, (dba Frederick Community Action Agency) (City of Frederick; total award: \$175,000).** Funding will support a new "Integrated Behavioral Health services program" that will: (1) embed a new behavioral health specialist/Licensed Clinical Social Worker at Frederick Community Action Agency (FCAA) with the stated goal of reducing ER visits for non-emergent needs.

**Helping Up Mission (HUM) (Baltimore City; total award \$215,000).** The program will support expanded outreach to the Hispanic/Latinx population impacted by COVID in Baltimore City, screen for basic human needs (food, shelter, clothing), and/or enroll individuals with SUD treatment needs in a long-term residential Spiritual Recovery Program. Funds will cover the salary of a newly hired bilingual Hispanic Outreach Coordinator, who is also a Certified Peer Recovery Specialist, and partially fund the salaries of current management staff.

**St. Mary's County Health Department (St. Mary's County; total award: \$650,000).** The program will support the opening of two new school-based health center (SBHC) sites. These will be the first SBHCs in St. Mary's County, and will provide primary care and mental health services. Besides serving students and teachers of the school, the SBHCs are intended to be utilized for community testing, vaccinations, and telehealth services for the broader community.

**Community Free Clinic (Washington County; total award: \$210,000).** Funding will support access to care for vulnerable residents through a new transportation program and upgraded 211 services. Community Free Clinic will contract with the Washington County Action Council to provide two buses for five hours a day and five days a week. The Council also has the flexibility to offer transportation services on weekends and holidays. Updating the 211 services (e.g. updating the current list of providers) will encourage increased utilization of the transportation services and greater integration of health and social services.

**Sinai Hospital (Baltimore City; total award: \$225,000).** The program will support a "community mobile health clinic" providing health and social services for individuals in West Baltimore. The clinic will serve infants through older adults, offering immunizations and chronic health management, and seeks to address SDOH challenges (i.e., transportation). The mobile van will include a CHW as part of its team, along with a nurse and advance practice provider.

## **Addressing the immediate and longer-term recovery needs of Maryland's safety net providers as they navigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic**

**Mosaic (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Harford & Carroll Counties; total award: \$80,000).** This program will provide internet-enabled tablets to facilitate psychiatric rehabilitative services for 200 adults with serious and persistent mental illness who are enrolled solely in Mosaic's six Psychiatric Rehabilitation Programs. It also will support the development of additional online psychiatric rehabilitation content and curriculum. Tablets will provide clients with virtual access to: daily psychiatric rehabilitation services; primary care and other healthcare services via telehealth; other virtual rehabilitative services such as music therapy; a Google Classroom with mental health rehabilitation resources and content; and the Sheppard Pratt YouTube platform. Clients also are provided with basic case management services, such as assistance in securing entitlements, coordination of services, and liaison with external somatic and mental health services.

**Mary's Center (Montgomery & Prince George's Counties; total award: \$97,942).** The program will support employee health among Mary's Center Maryland-based staff, specifically the salary of a Maryland Employee Health Nurse (.25 FTE) as well as PPE (gloves, gowns, etc.) and cleaning and disinfecting supplies. Activities to be managed by the Employee Health Nurse include: COVID-19 screening, testing, treatment, and ultimately vaccines for Mary's Center staff; employee flu vaccinations; and TB screening/testing. Mary's Center is an FQHC that provides comprehensive medical, dental, behavioral health care, and social services for underserved, largely Hispanic immigrant populations in Montgomery and Prince George's counties.

**Catholic Charities of DC (Prince George's County; total award: \$25,000).** The program supports access to comprehensive oral health services at the Mona Center dental clinics. Funding will support salaries for a dentist and dental assistant, as well as a small amount of PPE and health and safety supplies. In addition to providing

comprehensive dental care, staff will take patients' blood pressure readings, conduct screenings for depression and tobacco use and, as appropriate, make referrals to other free or reduced-rate services in the community. The program will target low-income, uninsured individuals, primarily residents of Hispanic or Latinx descent.

**Care for Your Health (Howard and Prince George's Counties; total award: \$131,027).** The program will support the expansion of a "Hospital-at-Home" pilot program to provide hospital care to persons in their homes utilizing remote monitoring technology. Under the program, a customized plan is developed for each patient, including training on the use of remote monitoring devices, a visit with the clinical pharmacist, daily in-person home visits by a physician or nurse practitioner, and linkages to other community resources. The program targets primarily elderly and minority patients, but also is available to those with conditions such as hypertension, pneumonia, confusion, respiratory failure, and heart failure, as well as individuals discharged from the hospital due to COVID-19 and COVID-19 related complications.

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